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THE INDEX

TO THE

GENERAL LAWS

OF

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

AND ALSO INDEXES TO THE

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
AND THE REARRANGEMENT
THEREOF

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FOREWORD.

The following indexes to the General Laws and to the federal and state constitutions have been prepared by or under the direction of the undersigned, appointed for that purpose by the special committee on printing the General Laws. The material has been indexed by chapter, section and sub-section, rather than by page. This has necessitated the abandonment of the double column page and increased the bulk of the book; but it is probable that the greater definiteness of reference will more than offset the inconvenience involved in handling a thicker volume.

The chapter and section method has also the further advantage of rendering it more feasible to insert in a master copy of the index reference to the various changes and additions annually made by the General Court. By chapter 197 of the Acts of 1922, approved by Governor Cox, March 24, 1922, Counsel to the Senate and House of Representatives, in connection with their duties relating to the "continuous consolidation of the laws", are directed "from time to time to make such additions and revisions in the index of the General Laws as may be necessary to insure its prompt publication in connection with future revisions of the statutes." Copies of the index containing such additions and revisions are to be deposited, from time to time, in the office of the state secretary or elsewhere and made available for public use.

The advantages of these provisions are obvious. Not only are the General Laws and their amendments and additions to be made ready for immediate re-publication when deemed advisable, but also the index, thus avoiding a repetition of vexatious delay in a matter so much affecting the public convenience.

Attention is called, in connection with the use of the index, to the cumulative tables of changes in the General Laws to be found near the end of each annual Blue Book, and to the tables of disposition of the Revised Laws and other statutes, comprising pages cxiii to cclviii, inclusive, of volume I of the General Laws.

WILLIAM E. DORMAN,
Counsel to the Senate.

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TO THE

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